Amendments to the Claims

1-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) A compound of the general formula I

$(Y^1)_m-Ar^1(X^1)-C(=O)$-CH=CH-~~V~~$Ar^2(X^2)-(Y^2)_p$ I

wherein

~~V designates -CH=CH-;~~

Ar^1 and Ar^2 independently are selected from aryl;
m is an integer selected from the group consisting of 0, 1, and 2,
p is an integer selected from the group consisting of 0, 1, and 2,

wherein the sum of m and p is at least 1;

each Y^1 and Y^2 independently represents a substituent selected from A, B, and C

$-Z-N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^-$, (A)
$-NR^3-Z-N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^-$, and (B)
$-O-Z-N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^-$; (C)

wherein Z is $-(CH_2)_n-$, wherein n is 1-4;

R^1, R^2 and R^4 independently are selected from optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkyl, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkenyl, optionally substituted C_{4-12}-alkadienyl, optionally substituted C_{6-12}-alkatrienyl, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkynyl, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkoxycarbonyl, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkylcarbonyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted arylcarbonyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted heteroarylcarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-carbonyl, amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl; or R^1 and R^2 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached ($-N(R^1)R^2$) form an optionally substituted nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring;

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, and C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonyl, said alkyl and alkylcarbonyl optionally carrying substituent(s) selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, carboxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonyl, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino, and aryl optionally substituted 1-3 times with C_{1-4}-alkyl, C_{1-4}-alkoxy, nitro, cyano, amino or halogen; or R^1 and R^3 together form a biradical Z^* which is as defined for Z;

Q is an anion;

X^1 and X^2 independently designate a substituent present 0-5 times on Ar^1 and Ar^2, respectively, each X^1 and X^2 independently being selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkyl, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkenyl, optionally substituted C_{4-12}-alkadienyl, optionally substituted C_{6-12}-alkatrienyl, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkynyl, hydroxy, optionally substituted ~~C_{1-12}-alkoxy~~C_{1-6}-alkoxy, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkenyloxy, carboxy, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkoxycarbonyl, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkylcarbonyl, formyl, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted aryloxy, optionally substituted arylcarbonyl, optionally substituted arylamino, arylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxy, optionally substituted heteroarylcarbonyl, optionally substituted heteroarylamino, heteroarylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted heterocyclyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyloxy-carbonyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyloxy, optionally substituted heterocyclylcarbonyl, optionally substituted heterocyclylamino, heterocyclylsulphonylamino, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino, carbamoyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)aminocarbonyl, amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonylamino, amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-carbonylamino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-carbonylamino, cyano, guanidino, carbamido, C_{1-6}-alkanoyloxy, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphonyloxy, aminosulfonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)aminosulfonyl, nitro, optionally substituted C_{1-6}-alkylthio, and halogen, where any nitrogen-bound C_{1-6}-alkyl is optionally substituted with hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, C_{2-6}-alkenyloxy, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino, carboxy, C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonylamino, halogen, C_{1-6}-alkylthio, C_{1-6}-alkyl-sulphonyl-amino, or guanidino; and salts thereof.

40. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein R^1, R^2 and R^4 independently are selected from optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkyl, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkenyl, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkynyl, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-carbonyl, amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, and mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl.

41. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein R^3 is selected from hydrogen and methyl.

42. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 39, wherein X^1 and X^2 independently designates 0-4 substituents, where such optional substituents independently are selected from optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkyl, hydroxy, optionally substituted ~~C_{1-12}-alkoxy~~C_{1-6}-alkoxy, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkenyloxy, carboxy, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkylcarbonyl, formyl, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted aryloxy, optionally substituted arylcarbonyl, optionally substituted arylamino, arylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted

heteroaryl, optionally substituted heteroarylamino, optionally substituted heteroarylcarbonyl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxy, heteroarylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted heterocyclyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyloxy, optionally substituted heterocyclylamino, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino, carbamoyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)aminocarbonyl, amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl-carbonylamino, amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-carbonylamino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-carbonylamino, guanidino, carbamido, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphonyloxy, optionally substituted C_{1-6}-alkylthio, aminosulfonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)aminosulfonyl, and halogen, where any nitrogen-bound C_{1-6}-alkyl may be substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, and halogen.

43. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein R^1, R^2 and R^4 independently are selected from optionally substituted C_{1-6}-alkyl, optionally substituted C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, amino-carbonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)aminocarbonyl, amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, and mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl.

44. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein X^1 and X^2 independently designate 0-3 substituents, such optional substituents independently being selected from optionally substituted C_{1-6}-alkyl, hydroxy, optionally substituted C_{1-6}-alkoxy, carboxy, optionally substituted C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonyl, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryloxy, optionally substituted arylamino, arylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted heteroarylamino, heteroarylsulphonylamino, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino, carbamoyl, C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonylamino, guanidino, carbamido, optionally substituted C_{1-6}-alkylthio, optionally substituted heterocyclyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyloxy, optionally substituted heterocyclylamino and halogen, where any nitrogen-bound C_{1-6}-alkyl may be substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, and halogen.

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein at least one of Ar^1 and Ar^2 is phenyl.

47. (Original) The compound according to claim 46, wherein both of Ar^1 and Ar^2 are phenyl, m is 1 or 2, and p is 0, 1 or 2.

48. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein X^2 represents at least one substituent selected from C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryloxy, optionally substituted arylamino, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted heteroarylamino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino, C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonylamino, optionally substituted C_{1-6}-alkylthio, optionally substituted heterocyclyl, optionally

substituted heterocyclyloxy, optionally substituted heterocyclylamino and halogen.

49. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein X^2 represents at least two halogen atoms.

50.-51. (Cancelled)

52. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein one of Y^1 and Y^2 represents a substituent of the formula A

$$-CH_2-N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^- \qquad (A)$$

wherein R^1, R^2 and R^4 are independently C_{1-6}-alkyl.

53. (Original) The compound according to claim 51, wherein Y^1 represents a substituent of the formula $-CH_2-N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^-$.

54. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein one of Y^1 and Y^2 represents a substituent of the formula B

$$-NR^3-(CH_2)_{2-3}-N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^- \qquad (B)$$

wherein R^3 is selected from hydrogen and methyl, and R^1, R^2 and R^4 are independently C_{1-6}-alkyl.

55. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, wherein one of Y^1 and Y^2 represents a substituent of the formula C

$$-O-(CH_2)_{2-3}-N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^- \qquad (C)$$

wherein R^1, R^2 and R^4 are independently C_{1-6}-alkyl.

56. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim ~~52~~39, wherein Ar^1 and Ar^2 both are phenyl.

57. (Original) The compound according to claim 39, which is selected from the group consisting of:
(2-{3-[3-(2-Chloro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-3-oxo-propenyl]-3',5'-dimethyl-biphenyl-4-yloxy}-ethyl)-trimethyl-ammonium, iodide;
(2-{3-[3-(4-Amino-phenyl)-3-oxo-propenyl]-3',5'-dimethyl-biphenyl-4-yloxy}-ethyl)-trimethyl-ammonium, iodide;
(2-{3-[3-(2-Amino-phenyl)-3-oxo-propenyl]-3',5'-dimethyl-biphenyl-4-yloxy}-ethyl)-trimethyl-ammonium, iodide;
4-{3-[3-(2-Fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-3-oxo-propenyl]-2'-methoxy-biphenyl-4-yl}-1,1-dimethyl-piperazin-1-ium, iodide;
{3-[3-(4-Dibutylamino-phenyl)-acryloyl]-benzyl}-trimethyl-ammonium, iodide;
3-[4-(2-Trimethylammonium-ethoxy)-biphenyl-3-yl]-1-(3-trimethylammonium-phenyl)-propenone, di-iodide; and
3-[4-(2-trimethylammonium-ethoxy)-3',5'-dimethyl-biphenyl-3-yl]-1-(2-trimethylammonium-4-methoxy-phenyl)-propenone, di-iodide.

58. (Currently Amended) A method for treating bacterial infections caused by any one of Staphylococcus aureus; Staphylococcus intermidius; Enterococcus faecalis; Enterococcus faecium; Streptococcus pneumoniae; Streptococcus pyogenes; Streptococcus agalactiae; and Eschericia coli in a mammal comprising administration of a compound of the general formula I

$$(Y^1)_m\text{-}Ar^1(X^1)\text{-}C(=O)\text{-}CH=CH\text{-}\sout{V}Ar^2(X^2)\text{-}(Y^2)_p \qquad I$$

wherein

~~V designates $-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-$ or $-C\equiv C-$;~~

Ar^1 and Ar^2 independently are selected from aryl;

m is an integer selected from the group consisting of 0, 1, and 2,

p is an integer selected from the group consisting of 0, 1, and 2, wherein the sum of m and p is at least 1;

each Y^1 and Y^2 independently represents a substituent selected from A, B, and C

$$-Z\text{-}N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^-, \qquad (A)$$
$$-NR^3\text{-}Z\text{-}N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^-, \text{ and} \qquad (B)$$
$$-O\text{-}Z\text{-}N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^-; \qquad (C)$$

wherein Z is a biradical $-(C(R^H)_2)_n-$, wherein n is an integer in the range of 1-6 and each R^H is independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}-alkyl, or wherein $(R^H)_2$ is =O;

R^1, R^2 and R^4 independently are selected from optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkyl, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkenyl, optionally substituted C_{4-12}-alkadienyl, optionally substituted C_{6-12}-alkatrienyl, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkynyl, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkoxycarbonyl, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkylcarbonyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted arylcarbonyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted heteroarylcarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-carbonyl, amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl; or R^1 and R^2 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached ($-N(R^1)R^2$) form an optionally substituted nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring;

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, and C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonyl, said alkyl and alkylcarbonyl optionally carrying substituent(s) selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, carboxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonyl, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino, and aryl optionally substituted 1-3 times with C_{1-4}-alkyl, C_{1-4}-alkoxy, nitro, cyano, amino or halogen; or R^1 and R^3 together form a biradical Z^* which is as defined for Z;

Q is an anion;

X^1 and X^2 independently designate a substituent present 0-5 times on Ar^1 and Ar^2, respectively, each X^1 and X^2 independently being selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkyl, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkenyl, optionally substituted C_{4-12}-alkadienyl, optionally substituted C_{6-12}-alkatrienyl, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkynyl, hydroxy, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkoxy, optionally substituted C_{2-12}-alkenyloxy, carboxy, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkoxycarbonyl, optionally substituted C_{1-12}-alkylcarbonyl, formyl, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted aryloxy, optionally substituted arylcarbonyl, optionally substituted arylamino, arylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxy, optionally substituted heteroarylcarbonyl, optionally substituted heteroarylamino, heteroarylsulphonylamino, optionally substituted heterocyclyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyloxy-carbonyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyloxy, optionally substituted heterocyclylcarbonyl, optionally substituted heterocyclylamino, heterocyclylsulphonylamino, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino, carbamoyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)aminocarbonyl, amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonylamino, amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-carbonylamino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}-alkyl-carbonylamino, cyano, guanidino, carbamido, C_{1-6}-alkanoyloxy, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-6}-alkylsulphonyloxy, aminosulfonyl, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)aminosulfonyl, nitro, optionally substituted C_{1-6}-alkylthio, and halogen, where any nitrogen-bound C_{1-6}-alkyl is optionally substituted with hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, C_{2-6}-alkenyloxy, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6}-alkyl)amino, carboxy, C_{1-6}-alkylcarbonylamino, halogen, C_{1-6}-alkylthio, C_{1-6}-alkyl-sulphonyl-amino, or guanidino; and salts thereof.

59. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 39, wherein one of Y^1 and Y^2 represents a substituent of the formula A

$$-CH_2-N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^- \quad (A)$$

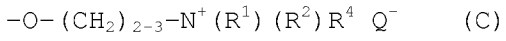
wherein R^1, R^2 and R^4 are independently C_{1-6}-alkyl.

60. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 58, wherein one of Y^1 and Y^2 represents a substituent of the formula B

$$-NR^3-(CH_2)_{2-3}-N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^- \quad (B)$$

wherein R^3 is selected from hydrogen and methyl, and R^1, R^2 and R^4 are independently C_{1-6}-alkyl.

61. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 58, wherein one of Y^1 and Y^2 represents a substituent of the formula C



$$-O-(CH_2)_{2-3}-N^+(R^1)(R^2)R^4\ Q^- \qquad (C)$$